(b) to (d). The available Cobalt Therapy facilities in Rajasthan are not considered as adequate. This Ministry has already released financial assistance of Rs. 12.00 lakhs to MBS Hospital, Kota, for setting up of a Cobalt Unit. Separately a proposal for development of Oncology Wings in Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Ajmer and Rabindra Nath Tagore Medical College, Udaipur is under consideration.

[*English*]

Shortage of Malaria Drug

*276. SHRI SHRIAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Government ignores shortage of Malaria drug" appearing in the Times of India, (Bombay edition) dated October 7, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and whether any probe has been made in this regard; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the remedial steps proposed to be taken to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). During the period November 1990 to July 1991, there was a shortage of Primaquine tablets which is one of the Anti-Malarial drugs used in the Malaria Control Programme. The shortage was on account of the failure of the suppliers to effect deliveries inaccordance with the orders placed on them. In order to overcome the shortage, Government organised the import of primaquine tablets through the World Health Organisation and adequate quantity has now been procured.

In order to conserve the stock of primaquine tablets, the Directorate of NMEP had issued instructions to the State Health authorities on 6/5/1991 for restricting the use of primaquine to serious and resistant cases of malaria. These instructions were subsequently withdrawn on 11/9/1991.

[*Translation*]

Names of Freedom Fighters in School Text Books

*277. SHRI AYUB KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether names of eminent freedom fighters have been removed from the prescribed school text books; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). According to information received from the NCERT and the CBSE no such name has been removed.

[*English*]

Control of AIDS

*278. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Latex has submitted any project report for the prevention of AIDS in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Hindustan Latex Limited had sent a proposal to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on 9.9.1991 for improving the quality of condoms and promotional activities. The proposal is for an outlay of Rs. 2241 lakhs as per details below:

		Rs. in lakhs
1.	Purchase of equipment for improving quality assurance system	806
2.	Research Studies	35
3.	IEC	525
4.	Installation of 10,000 Vending Machines	875
		2241

(c) A comprehensive project proposal for prevention and control of AIDS is under consideration with the World Bank. The project *inter alia*, includes measures for upgradation of the quality of condoms which would cover some of the activities mentioned HLL in their proposal mentioned above.

New Tourism Routes

*279. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have declared some routes as tourism routes for developing them in connection with the Visit India Year;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the routes from Kerala;

(c) whether Kovalam has been included in these routes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. As part of the programme for India Tourism Year, 1991, eighteen new circuits were identified in consultation with State Governments and industry to strengthen infrastructural facilities. These are extensions of established circuits. Four places in Kerala are covered in these circuits.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Kovalam is already on an established travel circuit.

National Conference on Panchayati Raj and Women

*280. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA:
SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) when and where the last "National Conference on Panchayati Raj and Women" was held;

(b) the main features of the decisions taken therein;

(c) the details of follow-up action taken